

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016  
Tall Trees Water District  
Wappingers Falls, New York 12590  
Public Water Supply ID# 1302809*

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the Tall Trees Water District is issuing an annual 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 **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc.** at (845) 463-7310. 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 time and place of the regularly scheduled Town Board meetings may be obtained from **Joseph Paoloni, Town Clerk**, at (845) 297-5771.

## **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 251 residents through 82 service connections. Our water source until July 22, 2016 is groundwater drawn from two 180 ft. deep wells located in the vicinity of Amherst lane and Wheeler Hill Road. These wells are sealed and protected against surface water runoff contamination. Treatment of the water prior to distribution consists of disinfection with chlorine to destroy microorganisms. Both wells have submersible pumps that pump directly to the system. A storage tank “floats” on the system, providing pressure during off pump times. It is required that all customers aggressively conserve water to ensure adequate water for everyone.

On July 22, 2016 after a series of pump failures which created a water emergency it was determined to run a temporary emergency connection to the United Wappinger Water District main on wheeler Hill Road. This connection was done with the approval of the Health Department. Currently the town is acquiring grants and organizing the permanent connection so that the Tall Trees residents will become a part of the United Wappinger Water District. A copy of the 2016 United Wappinger Water District Annual water quality Report is attached.

The water in the Tall Trees water system contained significant levels of hardness. It may be necessary to adjust or install your water softener. The estimated hardness of your water from the United Wappinger Water District is between 14-18 grains per gallon.

**WE ASK THAT ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS BE VIGILANT IN REGARD  
TO SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF OUR WATER  
TREATMENT PLANTS.**

**SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT**

The New York State Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The State source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination, and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water. It does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is or will become contaminated. See section “Are There Contaminants In Our Drinking Water” for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our water as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to a permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial 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. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination.

The County and State Health Departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted.

## 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, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts all compounds which were detected in your drinking. All samples detected with the exception of lead, copper, trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids were collected prior to July 22, 2016 when Tall Trees connected to the United Wappinger Water District.. 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. No source water samples were taken prior to the connection to the United Wappinger Water District.

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 Dutchess County Health Department at (845) 486-3404.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Barium	No	11/2015	0.11	ppm	2	MCL = 2	Discharge of drilling wastes
Chloride	No	11/2015	237	mg/l	N/A	250	Water softener discharge; road salt
Copper See Note 2	No	08/2016	0.11 (0.0202-0.136)	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Iron	No	11/2015	.025	mg/l	N/A	MCL = .3	Naturally occurring
Lead See Note 1	No	08/2016	0.0039 (ND-0.0046)	ppm	0	AL = 0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	No	11/2015	0.062	mg/l	N/A	MCL = .3	Naturally occurring
Nitrate (As Nitrogen)	No	11/2015	1.17	ppm	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium See Note 5	No	11/2015	100	mg/l	N/A	Dietary Restriction	Water softener discharge; road salt
Sulfate	No	11/2015	34.2	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Zinc	No	11/2015	0.012	mg/l	N/A	MCL = 5	Naturally occurring; mining waste

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Haloacetic Acids	No	09/2016	8.9	ug/l	N/A	60	Naturally occurring; by-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes	No	09/2016	28	ug/l	N/A	80	Naturally occurring; by-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Gross Alpha	No	11/2013	3.22±1.82	pCi/L	0	15 See Note 3	Erosion of natural deposits
See Note 3							
Uranium	No	11/2013	1.91	ug/l	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Notes:

- 1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 12 samples collected.
- 2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 12 samples collected. 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 MCL for Gross Alpha is 15 pCi/L after exclusion of Uranium.
- 4 – The test results show acceptable levels of chlorides and sodium in the water. However, as operators we are concerned with maintaining these levels. Sodium does not have a maximum contaminant level. Sodium levels in the well water are at a level of 100 milligrams per liter. This level will be increased by a water softener, if you have one. Water containing more than 20 milligrams of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 milligrams per liter of sodium should not be used by people on moderately restricted sodium diets. It is the recommendation of the Town that you consult your physician regarding these levels if you are on a sodium restricted diet. The chloride level in the water samples collected was 237 milligrams per liter. The presence of chloride ions in the drinking water above the maximum contaminant level of 250 milligrams per liter can result in two undesirable aesthetic effects. First, you may detect an objectionable taste of the water. Second, the higher level of chloride may cause an advance corrosion of the pipes within the water system. Softener backwash into septic systems is contributing to the elevated levels of sodium and chlorides in the well water. All homeowners with softeners should check and adjust their softeners in order to limit the amount of brine solution discharged into septic systems and groundwater.

**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).

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)**: 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 contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc.** is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

During 2016, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## **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 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**

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 **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 463-7310** if you have questions.

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2016*  
*United Wappinger Water District*  
*Wappingers Falls, New York 12590*  
*Public Water Supply ID# 1330660*

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, the United Wappinger Water District is issuing an annual 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 **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc.** at (845) 463-7310. 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 time and place of the regularly scheduled Town Board meetings may be obtained from **Joseph Paoloni, Town Clerk**, at (845) 297-5771.

## **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 source is two major well fields: the Atlas well field and the Hilltop well field. All water passes through filters at each of these well fields. During 2016 our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. All of our water is treated with chlorine as a disinfectant to destroy microorganisms prior to distribution.

The water from the Atlas well field is significantly harder than the water from the Hilltop well field. It may be necessary to adjust your softener, or to install a softener. The estimated hardness of your water is between 14 and 18 grains.

## **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT**

The New York State Health Department has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water; it does not mean that the water delivered to the consumers is, or will become, contaminated. See the section "Sampling Results" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any.

The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future. The county and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, and planning and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted.

### **North Wappinger Water (Atlas) Well Field SWAP Summary**

The source water assessment has rated our water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to a permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial 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. In addition, the wells are located in an area prone to flooding. The county and state health departments will use this information to direct future water protection activities.

### **Hilltop Water Well Field SWAP Summary**

The source water assessment has rated our water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, salts, sulfate, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of the wells to a permitted discharge facility (industrial/commercial 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. In addition, the wells are located in an area prone to flooding. While the source water assessment has rated our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water system serves 14,000 customers through 3,498 service connections. The total water produced in 2015 was 380.5 million gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 1,042,000 gallons per day. Our highest single day was 1.5 million gallons. The estimated amount of water delivered to our customers was 323.5 million gallons. This leaves an unaccounted total of 57 million gallons. This water was used for flushing mains, fighting fires, and leaks. In 2016, water customers were billed a minimum of \$66.20 for up to and including 2,500 cubic feet, with an additional charge of \$1.20 per 100 cubic feet for anything over 2,500 cubic feet.

## **ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?**

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: asbestos, 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 all compounds which 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 Dutchess County Health Department at (845) 486-3404.

**INORGANICS**

			Hilltop Well Field				Atlas Well Field				Distribution System			
Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sample Date	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sample Date	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source	
Barium (ppm)	2	2	11/16	0.0121	N/A	11/16	0.0130	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chloride (ppm)	250	N/A	11/16	106	N/A	12/16	96.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination	
Chromium	.1	.1	11/16	.00127	N/A	11/16	ND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	2	2	11/16	ND	N/A	11/16	0.101	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Manganese (ppb)	300	N/A	11/16	14.7	N/A	11/16	2.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination	
Nickel (ppm)	N/A	N/A	11/16	.0021	N/A	11/16	.00123	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Discharge from steel metal factories	
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	11/16	.214	N/A	11/16	.451	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Sodium <sup>1</sup> (ppm)	see footnote	N/A	11/16	37.8	N/A	11/16	33.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners; animal waste	
Sulfate (ppm)	250	N/A	11/16	19.9	N/A	11/16	19.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring	
Zinc (ppm)	5	N/A	11/16	0.0127	N/A	12/16	0.0226	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring, mining waste	
Color (pt co)	15	N/A	11/16	5	N/A	11/16	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring	

**DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS**

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Hilltop Well Field			Atlas Well Field			Distribution System			Typical Source			
	MCL	MCLG	Sample Date	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sample Date	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sample Date		Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)													
63 Martin Drive	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quarterly	12.9 Average	9.6-16	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms
Chelsea Hydrant	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quarterly	7.1 Average	4.3-11	No	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)													
63 Martin Drive	80	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quarterly	27.9 Average	20.0-43.4	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
Chelsea Hydrant	80	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Quarterly	18.0 Average	10.1-27.6	No	
Total Organic Carbon (mg/l)	TT	N/A	2016	1.01	.523 - .595	2016	1.93	.502 - 2.15	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Naturally occurring
See Footnote <sup>3</sup>													
Turbidity NTU	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Daily 5 Days Per Week	.15 Average	.02 - .45	No	Soil runoff

**TAP WATER SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED FOR LEAD AND COPPER ANALYSES FROM SAMPLE SITES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY**

Substance (Unit of Measure)	Sample Date	AL	MCLG	Amount Detected (90 <sup>th</sup> %tile)	Range Low-High	Sites Above AL/Total Sites	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm) See footnote <sup>2</sup>	9/16	1.3	1.3	0.182	0.0148-0.856	0/35	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) See footnote <sup>2</sup>	9/16	15	0	4.8	ND-8.9	0/35	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

**Footnotes**

- 1 – Water containing more than 20 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.
- 2 – The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the total number of 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 and copper values detected at your water system.
- 3 – The amount detected is the average of all samples taken in 2016

**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.

**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.

**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).

**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 the level allowed by the State.

We are required to present the following information on lead in drinking water:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. **CAMO Pollution Control, Inc.** is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

During 2016, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## **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 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, and check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

In 2013, the water main extension to the Chelsea/New York City water facility was completed at no expense to the district. This extension of water main, and the agreement with New York City, has given the Town the option of using New York City water when the City's upgrades are complete. In 2014 the water mains were extended to the hamlet of Chelsea.

As noted previously, the water quality in the United Wappinger Water District meets all standards and limits set forth by the State of New York, with no violations regarding water quality. The Dutchess County Health Department formulated a schedule which required the Town to have filters installed. In the fall of 2015 the filter project was completed. Now all the water for United Wappinger Water is filtered and this will improve quality and insure that dangerous viruses cannot enter through our source water. Along with the filter project, two separate distribution capital projects were completed in 2015; the MacFarlane Road Loop, and the Meadowood Loop. These additional loops will help to ensure water quality and quantity throughout the system.

## **CLOSING**

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 CAMO Pollution Control, Inc. at (845) 463-7310 if you have questions.

**WE ASK THAT ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS BE VIGILANT AND  
REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF OUR  
WATER TREATMENT PLANT. PLEASE CONTACT LAW  
ENFORCEMENT AT 911.**