

**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023**  
**Clifton Park Water Authority**  
**661 Clifton Park Center Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065**  
**(Public Water Supply ID#NY500175)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

To comply with State regulations, Clifton Park Water Authority 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. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We detected 32 of those contaminants, and only found 1 of those contaminants at a level higher than the State allows. As we told you at that time, our water temporarily exceeded a drinking water standard, and we rectified the problem by adding additional phosphate based sequestering agent. 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 authority administrator, Mr. Chris Wheland, during business hours at 383-1122. 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 Authority also holds a public meeting once a month at the Authority offices located at 661 Clifton Park Center Road, just west of Town Hall (PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM DATE AND TIME).

## **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 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, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. Pesticides and Herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Ground water wells are the predominant source of water in the Authority's system. The Clifton Park Water Authority serves approximately 35,000 people through 13,817 service connections utilizing several water sources. We have wells located throughout town at 6 different sites listed below: Vischer Ferry Preserve (2), Plank Road, Kinns Road, Boyack Road (2), Berry Farm and Oakwood. The Vischer Ferry Preserve wells are considered ground water under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDI). Additional treatment is performed on this water to ensure removal of certain surface water organisms. The majority of our water (approximately 70%) is pumped from the Vischer Ferry Preserve and Boyack wells. This water is treated to remove iron and manganese at the Boyack Road Treatment

Plant. Cartridge filters are also used to provide adequate treatment of the GWUDI wells in the Preserve. This source is pumped on a year-round basis because of the improved quality. Also pumped year-round are: the Berry Farm, Oakwood and Plank Road sources. These sources provide the highest quality water with the lowest hardness available. The remainder of the sources are used during the summer months to meet the higher demand created by outdoor uses. Liquid chlorine is added to the water at all sources for disinfection purposes. Phosphates are added at the Berry Farm and Oakwood locations in an effort to sequester the iron, manganese and hardness in those sources.

In 2023, we purchased a portion of our water from the Saratoga County Water Authority. The water source for the SCWA is the Hudson River. Water treatment consists of addition of a coagulant and filtration through 0.1-micron membrane filters. Caustic soda is added for pH adjustment and orthophosphates are added for corrosion control. Sodium hypochlorite is added for disinfection and to maintain a residual through the transmission system. Granular activated carbon filters are used on the finished water to adsorb natural organic compounds, taste and odor compounds and synthetic organic chemicals.

### **Restricted or Limited Use Sources**

Our water supply includes groundwater from 8 wells on 6 different sites. Most of these sources are in use year-round. However, due to limitations in the production capabilities, or due to less than favorable water qualities, some sources are limited to backup use or have been removed from service. The backup sources are generally used during periods of high demand or at times when one or more of our everyday sources are out of service for repair or maintenance.

The Clifton Park Water Authority has an interconnection with the Town of Halfmoon water system at The Crossing. The CPWA did not purchase water from the Town of Halfmoon or Glenville in 2023 to which the authority also has a connection. The Authority also has an interconnection with the Saratoga County Water Authority. The CPWA purchased a total of 389,825,000 gallons of water from the Saratoga County Water Authority in 2023.

### **Source Water Assessment Summary**

The NYS 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. For ground water sources, the assessment evaluated risk of contamination in two zones: an inner zone, of smaller radius around the well, considered more sensitive; and an outer zone, extending either 1 mile from the well, or as limited by a hydrogeologic barrier (such as a change in soil or rock layer or the presence of a water body). The higher of these ratings was used as the overall rating for the source. **The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, and does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will be contaminated.** See the spreadsheet that follows for a list of contaminants detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters in the future.

Our source of drinking water is derived from ground water (drilled wells) and ground water under the direct influence of surface water sources. The source water assessment has rated most of our ground water sources as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the residential land use and associated activities, such as fertilizing lawns, in the assessment area. One well is also rated as having an elevated susceptibility to herbicide/pesticide contamination, primarily due to the agricultural land use near the well. While the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbials, please note that our water is disinfected,

and the Vischer Ferry wells filtered, to ensure that the finished water delivered to your home meets the New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination. Public notification is required if regulated contaminants are found in our water, and increased monitoring may result.

The Saratoga County Water Authority source water assessment states that hydrologic characteristics generally make rivers highly sensitive to existing and new sources of nitrate, phosphorus, and microbial contamination. This does not mean that source water contamination has or will occur, and the SCWA provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure that the water delivered to customers meets all applicable standards. Water suppliers and 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 this assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting this office.

## **FACTS AND FIGURES**

Our water system serves approximately 35,000 people through 13,817 service connections utilizing several water sources. The total water produced in 2023 was 1,256,244,000 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 3.442 million gallons per day. Our highest single day was 8.085 million gallons pumped on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The amount of water delivered and billed to customers was 1,087,421,184 gallons in the year 2023. This leaves an unaccounted-for total of 8.87% of totaled pumped gallons. This water was used to flush mains, fight fires, and leakage, which accounts for the 8.87% calculated loss. In 2023, the average residential customer on the Clifton Park Water Authority system used 75,000 gallons per year in 2023 at a cost of \$371.25. In 2023, the water rate for CPWA customers was \$4.35 per thousand gallons, with a quarterly basic service charge of \$17.25. (See attached 2023 Pumpage and Financial Statistics Table below).

## **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, total organic carbon, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds including (PFOA/PFOS/1-4 Dioxane). 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 water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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 (1-800-426-4791)

## Clifton Park Water Authority Water System Table of Detected Contaminants

### Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL, (AL)or ((TT))	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	No	Monthly	Avg: 3.18 Range: 2.2 - 5.0	N/A	mg/l	((TT))	Naturally present in the environment.

### Radiological Contaminants

Gross alpha activity (including radium – 226 but excluding radon and uranium)	No	6/20/23 N/A 6/20/23 6/20/23 6/20/23 7/18/23	Berry Farm: 1.38 (+/- 1.68) Plank Road: Not Obtained Vischer Ferry: 0.0 (+/-0.963) Boyack: 1.19 (+/-1.61) Kinns Road: 0.236 (+/- 1.0) Oakwood: 1.48 (+/- 1.13)	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 & 228	No	6/20/23 6/09/20 6/09/20 6/09/20 6/06/20 7/18/23	Berry Farm: 0.834 Plank Road: 1.121 Vischer Ferry: 0.578 Boyack: 1.89 Kinns Road: 0.415 Oakwood: 0.183	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

### Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic	No	6/20/23 6/30/21 6/23/23 6/18/23 6/30/21	Berry Farm: 0.9 Plank Road: ND Vischer Ferry: 0.7 Boyack: 0.8 Kinns Road: 0.5	ug/l	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
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Contaminant	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL, (AL)or (TT)	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) <sup>3, 4, 5</sup>	No	See Note 3	LRAA 1: 75 (38 – 101.5) LRAA 2: 53 (31 - 85) LRAA 3: 44 (16 - 75) LRAA 4: 43 (33 – 46)	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants and Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>							
6:2 Fluorotelomersulfonic acid (6:2 FTS)	No	7/25/23	Vischer Ferry: 2.64	ng/l	N/A	N/A	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (BHEP)	No	6/20/23 6/30/21	Berry Farm: 1.02 Kinns Road: 1.1	ug/l	N/A	6	Used in plastic products such as polyvinyl chloride, plastic toys, vinyl upholstery, adhesives, and coatings. Compounds are likely to be released to the environment during production and waste disposal of these products. Also used in inks, pesticides cosmetics. and vacuum pump oil.
Dichlorodifluoromethane (Difluorodichloromethane) (Freon 12)	No	6/20/23	Boyack: 0.8	ug/l	N/A	5	Refrigerant; aerosol propellant; foaming agent
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	No	10/27/21	Vischer Ferry: 0.83	ng/l	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	No	7/25/23	Vischer Ferry: 2.29	ng/l	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.



**Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> During 2023, the CPWA exceeded the MCL for iron at the Oakwood well. We are required to present the following information. Iron is essential for maintaining good health. However, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. Drinking water with very large amounts of iron can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation and stomach pain. These effects usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small number of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron. People with hemochromatosis may be at greater risk for health effects resulting from too much iron in the body (sometimes called "iron overload") and should be aware of their overall iron intake. The New York State standard for iron in drinking water is 0.3 milligrams per liter and is based on iron's effects on the taste, odor and color of the water.

<sup>2</sup> The CPWA took 31 lead and copper samples in 2022. 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<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the of values detected at your water system. The 90th percentile for lead was 1.9 ug/L and copper was 0.72 mg/L.

<sup>3</sup> Sampling for disinfection byproducts was conducted quarterly by the CPWA on 2/23/23, 5/9/23, 8/8/23 and 11/8/23 at four locations in the water system. 2023 sample results are shown for each location as a range of results as well as the highest quarterly locational running annual average (LRAA).

<sup>4</sup> Location #1= State Farm Regional Office; Location #2= Blue Spruce Water Storage Tank; Location #3= Bruno Road Storage Tank; Location #4= Grooms Tavern.

<sup>5</sup> Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking 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

Unregulated Perfluoroalkyl Substances					
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG of Health Advisory Level <sup>1,2</sup>
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	NO	7/25/23	Vischer Ferry: 0.867	ng/L	2,000 ng/L
Perfluoroheaxanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	NO	7/25/23	Vischer Ferry: 0.661	ng/L	N/A
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	NO	7/25/23	Vischer Ferry: 1.85 Berry Farm: 0.885	ng/L	N/A

1 – USEPA Health Advisory Levels identify the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water at which adverse health effects and/or aesthetic effects are not anticipated to occur over specific exposure durations. Health Advisory Levels are not to be construed as legally enforceable federal standards and are subject to change as new information becomes available.

2 – All perfluoroalkyl substances, besides PFOA and PFOS, are considered Unspecified Organic Contaminants (UOC) which have an MCL = 0.05 mg/L = 50,000 ng/l

### Saratoga County Water Authority Table of Contaminants

#### Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TI or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	Monthly	None	N/A	0	TT=2 or more positive samples.	Naturally present in the environment.
Turbidity (Highest Result -Entry Point)	No	6-10-2023	0.083	NTU	N/A	TT-1.0	
Transmission System	No	2-21-2023	0.12	NTU	N/A	TT-5.0	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	No	Raw Avg Treated Avg	4.48 1.89	mg/L	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment.
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Date of</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TI or AL)</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>

		Sample	(Avg/Max) (Range)				
<b>Inorganics</b>							
Barium	No	4-18-2023	0.004	mg/l	2	2 mg/l	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	No	4-18-2023	8.1	mg/l	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Copper	No	8-24-2023	0.4056 <sup>1</sup> 0.03-1.20	mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Manganese	No	4-18-2023	2	ug/l	N/A	300	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination
Nitrate	No	3/8/23	0.11	mg/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	No	4-18-2023	7.2	mg/l	N/A	270*	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Haloacetic Acids - (mono-, di, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid <sup>2, 3,4,</sup>	No	LRAA#1 Range #1 LRAA#2 Range #2 LRAA#3 Range #3 LRAA#4 Range #4	41.46 (21.35-72.9) 26.32 (14.55-44.1) 38.58 (20.65-67.7) 36.53 (19.1-60.65)	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation Yes/No</b>	<b>Date of Sample</b>	<b>Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)</b>	<b>Unit Measurement</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Regulatory Limit (MCL, TI or AL)</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>

Trihalomethanes-(Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) 2 3 4 • • •	No	LRAA#1 Range #1 LRAA#2 Range #2 LRAA#3 Range #3 LRAA#4 Range #4	42.58 (19.65-85.75) 27.51 (15.05-53) 39.78 (18.65-79.05) 35.66 (17.65-69.7)	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms.
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	No	6/13/23	1.27	Ng/L	N/A	2000 ng/L	

<sup>1</sup> The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the fourteen samples collected. The action level for lead was exceeded at three of the sites tested at GlobalFoundries. Follow-up tests were found within the limits.

<sup>2</sup> LRAA means Locational Running Annual Average. This is a calculation of all samples collected during the running 4 quarter sampling period and averaged for that specific location.

<sup>3</sup> Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

<sup>4</sup> Location #1= LFTC Tank Out; Location #2= Wilton Connection; Location #3= LFTC Tank In; Location #4= Ballston Connection.

\* Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking 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.

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

**Level 1 Assessment**: A Level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment**: A Level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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).

**Nanograms per liter (ng/l)**: Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)**: A measure of the radioactivity in water

TOTAL GALLONS PUMPED	1,256,344,000
QUANTIFIABLE LOSSES:	
Flushing Program	25,000,000
Flushing New Mains, Etc	2,000,000
TOTAL GALLONS BILLED	<u>1,087,421,184</u>
TOTAL GALLONS ACCOUNTED FOR	1,199,312,500
LOST AND UNACCOUNTED FOR WATER	8.07%
AVERAGE DAILY PUMPAGE FOR 2023	3.442MGD
PEAK DAILY PUMPAGE - 5/29/2023	8.085MG
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	
2023 WATER SALES	\$4,916,573
BASIC SERVICE CHARGE	\$1,069,159
ALL OTHER SOURCES	\$ 651,182
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$6,636,914</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$4,387,235
DEBT SERVICE	\$1,989,513
RESERVE FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$ 258,060
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$6,634,808</u>

### **Average Annual Residential Charge For Water Service**

The average residential customer on the Clifton Park Water Authority system used 75,000 gallons per year in 2023 at a cost of \$371.25. In 2023, the water rate for CPWA customers was \$4.35 per thousand gallons, with a quarterly basic service charge of \$17.25.

## **What does this information mean?**

The table shows that our system uncovered a problem this year. Our only problem was an Iron MCL violation found at the Oakwood Well on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Iron contaminant concentration was found to be 410 ug/L in our sample. As a result of this exceedance, we are required to present the following information. Iron is essential for maintaining good health. However, too much iron can cause adverse health effects. Drinking water with very large amounts of iron can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation and stomach pain. These effects usually diminish once the elevated iron exposure is stopped. A small number of people have a condition called hemochromatosis, in which the body absorbs and stores too much iron. People with hemochromatosis may be at greater risk for health effects resulting from too much iron in the body (sometimes called "iron overload") and should be aware of their overall iron intake. The New York State standard for iron in drinking water is 300 micrograms per liter and is based on iron's effects on the taste, odor and color of the water. We have corrected this by increasing the amount of sequestering agent, phosphate, to reduce the amount of iron in our drinking water below the MCL limit.

## **Information on Lead**

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 CPWA 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 CPWA at 518-383-1122. 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>.

## **Information on Cryptosporidium**

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. During 2018, as part of their routine sampling, eight samples were collected of untreated Hudson River source water and analyzed for Cryptosporidium oocysts. Of these samples, no oocysts were detected. The Saratoga County Water Authority utilizes membrane filtration technology which removes these contaminants at higher rates than conventional water treatment technologies. Also during 2018, the Clifton Park Water Authority collected 12 samples from the Vischer Ferry wells and analyzed for Cryptosporidium oocysts. There were no oocysts found in any of these samples. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, a gastrointestinal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other

than drinking water.

## **Information on Giardia**

Giardia is a microbial pathogen present in varying concentrations in many surface waters and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Giardia is removed/inactivated through a combination of filtration and disinfection or by disinfection. During 2018, as part of their routine sampling, eight samples were collected of untreated Hudson River source water and analyzed for Giardia cysts. Of these samples, seven samples showed a total of seventy-nine cysts and one sample showed no cysts. The Saratoga County Water Authority utilizes membrane filtration technology which removes these contaminants at higher rates than conventional water treatment technologies. Also, during 2018, the Clifton Park Water Authority collected 12 samples from the Vischer Ferry wells and analyzed for Giardia cysts. There were no cysts found in any of these samples. Testing performed by the SCWA indicates the presence of Giardia in their (our) source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Giardia may cause giardiasis, an intestinal illness. People exposed to Giardia may experience mild or severe diarrhea, or in some instances no symptoms at all. Fever is rarely present. Occasionally, some individuals will have chronic diarrhea over several weeks or a month, with significant weight loss. Giardiasis can be treated with anti-parasitic medication. Individuals with weakened immune systems should consult with their health care providers about what steps would best reduce their risks of becoming infected with Giardiasis. Individuals who think that they may have been exposed to Giardiasis should contact their health care providers immediately. The Giardia parasite is passed in the feces of an infected person or animal and may contaminate water or food. Person to person transmission may also occur in day care centers or other settings where hand washing practices are poor.

## **Detected and Non-Detected Contaminants**

In accordance with State regulations, the Clifton Park Water Authority routinely monitors your drinking water for various contaminants. Your water is tested for inorganic contaminants, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, and disinfection byproducts. Additionally, the CPWA analyzes 40 samples from throughout the distribution system for coliform bacteria each month. Only the contaminants that have been detected in your drinking water are included in the Table of Detected Contaminants. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Therefore, some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

## **Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?**

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 HN/ 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)

## **Monitoring Violations**



The CPWA had no monitoring violations in 2023.

### **CPWA System Improvements in 2023**

In 2023, the CPWA completed construction of a pumpstation at its connection with the Saratoga County Water Authority. This project has increased the capacity of that connection.

### **Why Save Water and How Do We Avoid Wasting It?**

Although the CPWA system has an adequate amount of supply to meet the present demands of the system, 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.
- 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 and saving yourself money in the process 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:

- Use low flow shower heads and faucets.
- Repair all leaks in your plumbing system.
- Water your lawn sparingly early morning or late evening.
- Do only full loads of wash and dishes.
- Wash your car with a bucket and hose with a nozzle.
- Don't cut the lawn too short; longer grass saves water.

### **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.