



2022 Consumer Confidence Report on  
Water Quality for 2021

# Annual Water Quality Report

Indian Hill Water System

Public Water Supply ID# NY5918382



## Message from the President

Providing customers with safe, quality drinking water is a top priority for Liberty, and we are proud to present this Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) that shares detailed information regarding local water service and our compliance with state and federal quality standards during the 2021 calendar year.

Liberty makes significant investments each year to ensure the water we deliver to customers meets all Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). We invest responsibly in order to maintain the local water infrastructure, because strong infrastructure is a key factor in delivering quality water. Additionally, we have a top-notch water quality program that ensures the water delivered to your home or business is thoroughly tested by independent laboratories and the data is provided to the state to verify compliance with all applicable SDWA and NYSDOH water regulations.

We know our customers rely on us to make sure the water at their tap is safe to drink, and we take that responsibility seriously. Our employees live in the local community and take great pride in providing quality water and reliable service to you and your neighbors.

If you have any questions about the information within this report, please don't hesitate to contact us anytime at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711. We encourage you to visit our website at [www.libertyenergyandwater.com](http://www.libertyenergyandwater.com) to stay up-to-date and receive tips about water conservation and more.

On behalf of the entire Liberty family, thank you for being a valued customer and neighbor. We are proud to be your water provider.

Sincerely,  
Chris Alario  
President, Liberty New York Water

To request a printed copy of this report, please call us at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711. This report can also be found at [www.libertyenergyandwater.com](http://www.libertyenergyandwater.com).

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*



## Where Does My Water Come From?

The Indian Hill Water System serves 80 homes (320 consumers) located in the Town of Lewisboro. There are 3 ground water wells. Water treatment includes disinfection with sodium hypochlorite.

## 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's 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. While nitrates (and other inorganic contaminants) were detected in our water, it should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants from natural sources. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. See the section, "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated the wells as having a medium to high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other



industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the proximity of low intensity residential activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from unconfined aquifers with unknown hydraulic conductivities and the overlying soils are not known to provide adequate protection from potential contamination. While the source water assessment rates 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. A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us at the telephone number provided in this report.

## What are Drinking Water Standards?

Drinking water standards are the regulations set by the USEPA to control the level of contamination in the nation's drinking water. The USEPA and the NYSDOH are the agencies responsible for establishing drinking water quality standards in New York. This approach includes assessing and protecting drinking water sources; protecting wells and surface water; making sure water is

treated by qualified operators; ensuring the integrity of the distribution system; and making information about water quality available to the public. The water delivered to your home meets the standards required by the USEPA and the NYSDOH.

This report describes those contaminants that have been detected in the analyses of almost 200 different potential contaminants. Liberty wants to inform you that while most of our results indicate full compliance with state and federal drinking water standards, there were some exceedances. Sample results and information regarding the exceedances are available in the table on page 5 of this report.

We detected 13 of those contaminants, and only found 3 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. Please see last two pages in this report for more information or the “What does this information mean” section.

This report is intended to provide information for all water users. If received by an absentee landlord, a business, or a school, please share the information with tenants, employees, or students. We are happy to make additional copies of this report available. You may also access this report on the Liberty web page at [www.libertyenergyandwater.com](http://www.libertyenergyandwater.com).

## Substances That Could be in Water

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 activity.



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**, which 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, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the Westchester County Department of Health prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) also establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visiting their website at <https://www.ground-water-and-drinking-water/national-primary-drinking-water-regulations>. For information on bottled water visit the USFDA website at [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov).

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

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA

and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



## **Important Health Information**

### **Lead**

Lead, in drinking water, is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### **PFOA/PFOS**

PFOA caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high level exposures to PFOA/PFOS in people provide evidence that

some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA/PFOS as having suggestive evidence for

causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOA/PFOS in animals.

***Gross alpha activity (including radium – 226 but excluding radon and uranium)***

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

***Combined radium – 226 and 228***

Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Our Operations?**

During 2021, Indian Hill water system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

## Testing Results

During the year, Liberty collects water samples to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, or organic contaminants. Liberty believes it is important you know what was detected, and how much of the substance was present. The state allows the monitoring of certain substances less than once a year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. If a substance was tested and there was no detection, it is not listed in this table. You can find Definitions, Terms and Abbreviations related to this Table in the next section for easy reference.

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>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium	N	01/2021	0.0903	mg/l	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (mg/l)	N	02/2021	2.36	mg/l	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (mg/l) (footnote 1)	N	01/2021	18.9	mg/l	NA	See Health Effects	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners.
Sulfate(mg/l)	N	01/2021	20	mg/l	NA	250	Naturally occurring.
Zinc (mg/l)	N	01/2021	0.0254	mg/l	NA	5	Naturally occurring.
Chloride (mg/l)	N	01/2021	74.3	mg/l	NA	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Nickel (ug/l)	N	01/2021	1.75	ug/l	NA	NA	Naturally occurring.
Color (Units)	N	01/2021	2	units	NA	15	Natural color caused by organic matter.
Odor (TON)	N	01/2021	1.00	TON	NA	3	Natural sources
<b>Radiological Contaminants (footnote 2)</b>							
Gross Alpha, (including radium – 226 but excluding Radon and Uranium)	Y	2021 EP 2021 Well 2 2021 Well 3 2021 Well 4	17.45 (ND - 2.79) 12.63 (2.14 - 20.54) 1.02 (ND - 0.38) 4.63 (ND - 8.67)	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion and decay of natural deposits.
Combined Radium- 226 and 228	Y	2021 EP 2021 Well 2 2021 Well 3 2021 Well 4	5.75 (0.15 - 1.19) 5.88 (4.91 - 5.74) 0.72 (ND - 0.73) 1.92 (1.31 - 2.32)	pCi/L	0	5	
Gross Beta	N	2021 EP 2021 Well 2 2021 Well 3 2021 Well 4	13.70 (3.69 - 4.68) 15.63 (11.90 - 21.10) 4.68 (2.19 - 3.10) 8.51 (6.47 - 9.51)	pCi/L	0	50 (a)	
Uranium	N	2021 EP 2021 Well 2 2021 Well 3 2021 Well 4	6.62 (3.16 - 5.97) 18.56 (7.93 - 29.3) 3.85 (2.88 - 3.57) 12.58 (11.30 - 13.20)	ug/L	0	30 (b)	
<b>Disinfectant/ Disinfection By-product (D/DBP) Parameters (footnote 3)</b>							
HAA5	N	08/2021	Avg- 1.98 (ND – 3.95)	ug/L	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
TTHM	N	08/2021	Avg- 17.9 (2.3 – 33.6)	ug/L	N/A	80	TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.

**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>Synthetic Organic Contaminants (footnote 4) RAA</b>							
Perfluorooctanoic acid - (PFOA)	Y	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	4.8 (4.4 – 5.9) 10.4 (7.7 – 13.5) 4.0 (4.1 – 4.4) 5.3 (4.6 – 6.4)	ng/l	N/A	10	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid - (PFOS)	Y	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	2.9 (2.7 – 3.9) 11.5 (1.4 – 17.6) 2.3 (2.0 – 2.9) 4.1 (3.5 – 5.4)	ng/l	N/A	10	
<b>Unregulated Contaminants (footnote 5) RAA</b>							
Perfluorononanoic acid- (PFNA)	N	2021 Quarterly Well 2	1.5 (ND – 1.7)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid- (PFBS)	N	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	3.3 (2.9 – 3.9) 5.5 (4.6 – 7.1) 3.4 (3.0 – 4.5) 3.6 (2.8 – 4.4)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
Perfluoroheptanoic acid- (PFHpA)	N	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	1.6 (1.3 – 1.8) 3.3 (1.2 – 1.5) 1.2 (1.1 – 1.5) 1.8 (1.6 – 2.1)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid- (PFHxS)	N	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	2.5 (1.6 – 3.6) 9.1 (3.7 – 15.6) 1.8 (1.3 – 2.1) 3.7 (2.0 – 5.4)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
Perfluorohexanoic acid- (PFHxA)	N	2021 Quarterly EP Well 2 Well 3 Well 4	3.8 (3.3 – 4.8) 4.8 (4.2 – 5.8) 3.7 (3. – 4.2) 2.7 (2.3 – 3.2)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
Perfluorodecanoic acid- (PFDA)	N	2021 Quarterly Well 2	0.7 (ND – 0.7)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
N-ethylperfluoro octanesulfonamidoacetic acid- (NEtFOSAA)	N	2021 Quarterly Well 2	1.1 (ND – 1.1)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	
N-Methylperfluoro octanesulfonamidoacetic acid- (NMeFOSAA)	N	2021 Quarterly Well 2	0.8 (ND – 0.8)	ng/l	N/A	N/A	

- Notes:**
- 1- Sodium (mg/l): Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on a severely restricted sodium diet. Water more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on a moderately restricted diet.
  - 2- Radiological constituents were also sampled on raw water wells, as per health department requirements. This level represents the highest running annual average calculated from the data collected. Radiological results show the range of quarterly results and the annual average of each well and entry point (EP). MCL compliance is determined by the annual average at the EP only. (a) The State considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. (b) 30 µg/l of uranium is approximately 20.1 pCi/L.
  - 3- The Highest Level Detected from the table above for TTHM's and HAA's represent the highest level from the two distribution locations sampled. (TTHMs – chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform). (HAA5 --- mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid). The level detected from the table above for TTHM's and HAA's represent the highest level (from the two distribution locations sampled).
  - 4- PFOA and PFOS are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). PFAS are manmade chemicals that have been widely used in various consumer, commercial, and industrial products since the 1950s. These chemicals' unique properties make them resistant to heat, oil, stains, grease, and water and useful in a wide variety of everyday products. One of the PFAS' was widely used in fire-fighting foam. On August 26, 2020, New York State adopted new drinking water standards for public water systems that set maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) of 10 parts per trillion (10 ppt) each for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic

acid (PFOS), and 1 part per billion (1 ppb) for 1,4-dioxane. We detected PFOA and PFOS at levels below the USEPA Health Advisory threshold. The numbers reported here are a running annual average of the quarterly samples taken at each sampling point and the range of detections.

- 5- These chemicals are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). PFAS are manmade chemicals that have been widely used in various consumer, commercial, and industrial products since the 1950s. These chemicals' unique properties make them resistant to heat, oil, stains, grease, and water and useful in a wide variety of everyday products.

Lead and Copper (Tap water at homeowner's premise) (footnote 6)									
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measurement	# of samples	# of samples exceeding AL	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	N	07-09/2020	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile= 0.198 (0.035- 0.201)	mg/L	10	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	N	07-09/2020	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile= 2.25 (ND- 4.97)	ug/L	10	0	0	15	

- 6- The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 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. In this case, ten samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the 2nd highest value. The action level for lead and copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. 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 because of materials used in your home's plumbing. Indian Hill Water System 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>.



## Definitions, Terms and Abbreviations

**90th percentile:** For Lead and Copper testing. 10% of test results are above this level and 90% are below this level.

**AL:** Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**HAA5:** Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di- and tri-chloroacetic acid, and mono- and di- bromoacetic acid) as a group.

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, or 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 contaminants.

**NA:** not applicable.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limits.

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity

**ppb or ug/L:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter.



**ppm** or **mg/L**: parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**ppt** or **ng/L**: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

**RAA**: Running Annual Average, or the average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

**TTHM**: Total Trihalomethanes (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) as a group.

## What Does This Information Mean?

As you can see by the table, Indian Hill water system had MCL violations in 2021 for radionuclides, PFOA, and PFOS. Regarding radionuclides, the elevated detections of adjusted gross alpha and combined radium were in 2020 which caused the running annual average to exceed in 2021. All the sampling ranges at Entry Point (EP) in the table of contaminants shows we had no exceedances in 2021. Regarding PFOA/PFOS, the elevated detections were at well 2, not the EP (representation of water being distributed to consumers). Liberty Water submitted and followed an appropriate blending plan to ensure our water delivered to customers does not exceed the MCL. Please see last pages of this report for more details.

## 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.

## **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. For questions concerning this report or your water quality, please contact Natasha Niola, Water Quality Manager, at 516-632-2239, Liberty Customer Service at 1-877-426-6999 TDD:711 or Westchester Department of Health at 914-864-7332; or on the web at [www.libertyenergyandwater.com](http://www.libertyenergyandwater.com).

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Indian Hill Water Has Levels of Adjusted Gross Alpha and Combined Radium 226/228 Above Drinking Water Standards**

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results were collected on 01/18/21 show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for adjusted gross alpha and combined radium 226/228. The standard for adjusted gross alpha is 15 pCi/L and for combined radium 226/228 is 5 pCi/L. The average level of adjusted gross alpha over the last year (samples collected from 04/16/20 to 01/18/21) has been 17 pCi/L and the average level of for combined radium 226/228 has been 6 pCi/L.

#### **What should I do?**

There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

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

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. However, certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### **What is being done?**

The sampling point, from which these compliance samples are collected, has been replaced. Laboratory analysis results of this sampling point now demonstrate that there levels below the MCL of adjusted gross alpha and of combined radium 226/228.

Please be at ease in knowing your health is our top priority. We will continue sampling and provide updates if necessary.

For more information, please contact Natasha Niola at 516-273-5670, New York American Water Manager of Water Quality and Compliance.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by New York American Water

State Water System ID#: NY5918382

Date distributed: 03/09/2021

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER PFOA and PFOS MCL Exceedance at Indian Hill Water System**

### **Why are you receiving this notice/information?**

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water system found the chemicals perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) in your drinking water at 11.4 ppt and 15.1 ppt, respectively. This is above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 ppt for PFOA and PFOS in public drinking water systems. The MCL is set well below levels known or estimated to cause health effects. Consuming drinking water with PFOA and PFOS at or somewhat above the MCL does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses. The Indian Hill Water System is working on a strict timetable to reduce levels below the MCL.

### **What are the health effects of PFOA and PFOS?**

The available information on the health effects associated with PFOA and PFOS, like many chemicals, comes from studies of high-level exposure in animals or humans. Less is known about the chances of health effects occurring from lower levels of exposure, such as those that might occur in drinking water. As a result, finding lower levels of chemicals in drinking water prompts water suppliers and regulators to take precautions that include notifying consumers and steps to reduce exposure.

PFOA and PFOS has caused a wide range of health effects when studied in animals that were exposed to high levels. Additional studies of high-level exposures of PFOA and PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The most consistent findings in animals were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA and PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

At the level of PFOA and PFOS detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is well below PFOA and PFOS exposures associated with health effects.

### **What is New York State doing about PFOA and PFOS in public drinking water?**

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water systems to test for PFOA and PFOS. If found above the MCL of 10 ppt, the water supplier must take steps to lower the level to meet the standard. Exceedances of the MCL signal that steps should be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

### **What is being done to meet the MCL?**

Indian Hill Water System is working with the Westchester County Department of Health on a compliance schedule that includes steps to reduce levels of PFOA and PFOS. The Indian Hill Water System has three wells that provide your water supply. The three wells pump to a blended conjoined single-entry point in the distribution system. This notification is to notify you that one of the individual wells water sample exceeded the MCL, while the combined blended entry point sample, a true representation of the drinking water being supplied, was below the MCL for both PFOA and PFOS. A formalized blending plan is in the process of being submitted to the health department which will ensure compliance is being met and your drinking water is safe.

Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible.

### **Where can I get more information?**

For more information, please contact Natasha Niola at 516-273-5670 or [natasha.niola@amwater.com](mailto:natasha.niola@amwater.com), New York American Water Manager of Water Quality and Compliance. You can also contact the Westchester County Department of Health at 914-813-5000. If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your health care provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health.

This notice is being sent to you by New York American Water  
Public Water System ID# NY5918382  
Date: 03/23/2021