Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2012
The Seneca Nation of Indians

Introduction

The Seneca Nation of Indians (SNI) is pleased to issue this annual report describing the quality of the drinking water delivered to your tap in 2012. The purpose of this report is to help you understand what you are using in your daily lives, and to make you more educated consumers.

We are proud to tell you that last year, the water provided for your use met every United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standard for safety. In other words, SNI did not have one single violation of drinking water quality standards. This report contains information to help everyone understand more about their drinking water.

If, after reading this report, you have any questions about your drinking water, please contact Steve Tome, Sanitarian, at 716-945-5894.

Sources of Water

Cattaraugus Territory

In 2012, all drinking water for the Cattaraugus Territory was bought from the Erie County Water Authority (ECWA). Both SNI and ECWA had no drinking water quality violations. The Annual Water Quality Report from Erie County is attached at the end of this document. All water purchased from ECWA is disinfected and fluoridated prior to distribution to consumers.

The Seneca Nation of Indians samples the water within its distribution system. Table 1 summarizes the results of detected contaminants.
# TABLE 1
DETECTED CONTAMINANTS
CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Date of Sample</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
<th>Unit of Measurement</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Regulatory Limit MCL or AL</th>
<th>Likely Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>8/26/2009</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>ug/l</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>MCL = 2,000</td>
<td>Natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>8/26/2009</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>MCL = 10</td>
<td>Agricultural runoff; natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>9/11/2012</td>
<td>&lt;1*</td>
<td>ug/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>AL = 15</td>
<td>Household plumbing corrosion; natural sources; wood preservatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>9/11/2012</td>
<td>21*</td>
<td>ug/l</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>AL = 1,300</td>
<td>Household plumbing corrosion; natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Alpha</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>8/26/2009</td>
<td>2.58 ± 2.21</td>
<td>pCi/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 15</td>
<td>Natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radium 228</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>8/26/2009</td>
<td>0.248 ± 0.331</td>
<td>pCi/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 5</td>
<td>Natural sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>6/27/2012</td>
<td>0.024</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>MCL = 0.06</td>
<td>Disinfection By-Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trihalomethanes</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>6/27/2012</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>MCL = 0.08</td>
<td>Disinfection By-Product</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Value at 90th percentile
Allegany Territory

All drinking water produced on the Allegany Territory comes from groundwater. Water delivered within the city limits is produced by the Salamanca Board of Public Utilities (BPU). Their annual water quality report is available online at www.salamancabpu.com

Jimersontown Community Water System

The Seneca Nation of Indians samples the water within its distribution systems according to an approved sampling plan. Table 2 summarizes the results of detected contaminants.

**TABLE 2**
**DETECTED CONTAMINANTS JIMERSONTOWN COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Date of Sample</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trichloroethylene</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3/7/2012</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 4</td>
<td>Industrial contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Chlorobenzotrifluoride</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>3/7/2012</td>
<td>0.00334</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 4</td>
<td>Industrial contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichloroethylene</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7/30/2012</td>
<td>0.0014</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 4</td>
<td>Industrial contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Chlorobenzotrifluoride</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>8/8/2012</td>
<td>0.000583</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 4</td>
<td>Industrial contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichloroethylene</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7/30/2012</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MCL = 4</td>
<td>Industrial contamination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Steamburg Community Water System

The Seneca Nation of Indians samples the water within its distribution systems according to an approved sampling plan. No contaminants were detected in the Steamburg Water System in 2012.

On 6/13/2012 there was a positive result for coliform bacteria at 20 colonies per 100 milliliters of water. Coliform is an indicator of possible bacterial contamination. In accordance with USEPA procedures, follow-up samples were collected and analyzed. All results were non-detect, indicating that the water was safe to drink. The cause of this event was likely a low chlorine residual or sampling error.

Sullivan Hollow Community Water System

The Seneca Nation of Indians samples the water within its distribution systems according to an approved sampling plan. No contaminants were detected in the Sullivan Hollow Water System in 2012.

On 6/13/2012 there was a positive result for coliform bacteria at 2 colonies per 100 milliliters of water. Coliform is an indicator of possible bacterial contamination. In accordance with USEPA procedures, follow-up samples were collected and analyzed. All results were non-detect, indicating that the water was safe to drink. The cause of this event was likely a low chlorine residual or sampling error.

Shelton Park Water System

The Seneca Nation of Indians samples the water within its distribution systems according to an approved sampling plan. No contaminants were detected in the Shelton Park Water System in 2012.
**Contaminants in Drinking Water**

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 possesses 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).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 about drinking water from their health care providers.

On a monthly basis, all Nation water facilities are sampled and tested for microbiological quality and chlorine residual. Our drinking water was in complete compliance with the associated standards, as no microorganisms were ever detected, and a chlorine residual was always detected (a chlorine residual is important in the distribution system to prevent the growth of any microorganisms).

Other analyses were performed on a less frequent basis, including organic chemicals, radioactivity, and lead and copper. There were no violations of these standards.

**What Does All of This Mean?**

Aside from being required by the USEPA, the information presented in this report is meant to make you aware of the importance that is placed on providing water that is safe to drink. This quality water is not produced by accident. New York State Department of Health and United South and Eastern Tribes (USSET) certified operators are responsible for operating the equipment that produces your water. Samples are taken by trained professionals, and are analyzed by contract laboratories certified by the EPA. It is up to you, the consumer, to help us continue to provide water of excellent quality by informing us if you are experiencing problems with taste, odor, color, or lack of pressure in your homes or businesses.
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 using the best available treatment technology.

**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.

**mg/l:** milligrams per liter, which corresponds to one part of contaminant in one million parts of water.

**ug/l:** micrograms per liter, which corresponds to one part of contaminant in one billion parts of water.

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

**pCi/l:** picocuries per liter, which is a measurement of radioactivity in water.
New York State Department of Health Source Water Assessment

The New York State Department of Health completed a draft Source Water Assessment of the Supply Systems and Source Water sources under the state’s Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The purpose of this program is to compile, organize, and evaluate information regarding possible and actual threats to the quality of public water supply (PWS) sources. It is important to note that source water assessment reports estimate the potential for untreated drinking water sources and not the actual occurrence of contaminated drinking water. This assessment provides an estimation of the potential risk posed by various untreated water sources. The information provided is based on the assumption that the water source is not treated. Various untreated water sources are evaluated in this report, including those that are not treated or are treated in a manner that may not remove all contaminants. The assessment is based on the assumption that the water source is not treated.

New York State Water Quality Report Supplement: 2012

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations. We have reviewed through our testing that some contaminants have been detected, however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the state.

ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY    PWSID #1400443


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