

2004 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Saratoga Springs

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water comes from four wells that provide groundwater.

Saratoga Springs has a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan that is available for review. It provides more information such as potential sources of contamination and our source protection areas. It has been determined we have a low susceptibility level to potential sources of contamination, such as septic systems, animal feeding operations, and roads. If you have any questions regarding source protection, contact the office to review our source protection plan.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact George Leatham at (801) 766-9793. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our meetings. They are held as needed.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Detected Contaminant Table definitions:

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 treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform (# of monthly positive samples)	2	2	16		2004	Y	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (ground water, NTU)	NA	5	10	0-10	2003	Y	Soil Runoff

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3	ND-3	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon Emitters (pCi/L)	NA	NA	4	ND-4	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb)	n/a	50000	16000	2400-16000	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	160	90-160	2003	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90th percentile result)	1300	AL=1300	240		2003	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
number of sites exceeding the AL			0		2003	N	
Fluoride (ppm)	4000	4000	400	200-400	2003	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	500	ND-500	2004	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	3200	ND-3200	2003	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Sodium (ppm)	None set by EPA		80	10-80	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills.
Sulfate (ppm)	500	500	80	8-80	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills, runoff from cropland
TDS (ppm)	1000	1000	388	156-388	2003	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Toluene (ppb)	1000	1000	700	ND-700	2004		Discharge from petroleum factories

Water samples taken in August, October, and November confirmed the presence of total coliform bacteria. Total coliforms are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. Symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possible jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue.