2002 Water Quality Report for the City of Gaylord

This report covers the drinking water quality for the City of Gaylord for the calendar year 2002. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2002. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from three (3) groundwater wells located on Dickerson Road, North Hazel Avenue and North Otsego Avenue. The water quality from the wells is excellent and requires only minor treatment. Polyphosphates are added to the water to keep iron (which occurs naturally) in solution to reduce staining of fixtures and minimize rust deposits in the water mains. Chlorine is added to disinfect the water to ensure it is safe to drink. The State will be performing an assessment of our source water which should be available later in 2003. We will inform you on how to get a copy of the assessment report when it becomes available.

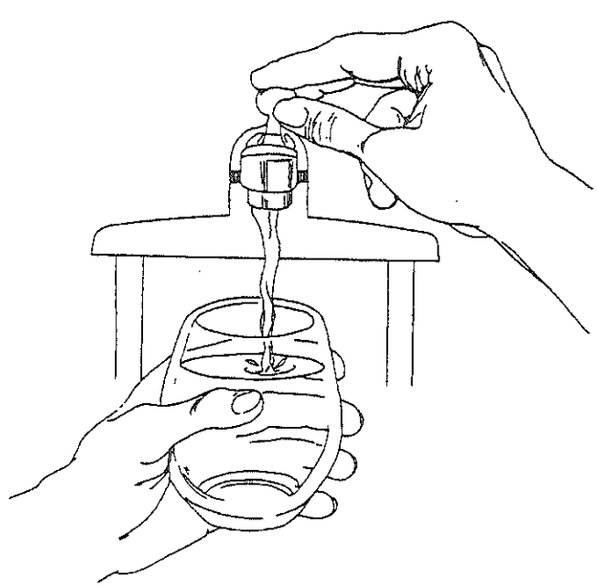
- **Contaminants and their presence in water:** Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** 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 systems 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from 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 and residential uses.
  * **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
  * **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products 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 that 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 provide the same protection for public health.



Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2002 calendar year. The presence of these 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 January 1 – December 31, 2002. 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. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- 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 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.
- N/A: Not applicable ND: not detectable at testing limit ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Samples Collected at the Wellhouse:

Regulated Chemical Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Arsenic (ppb)[1]	10	0	<1 to 1		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02 to 0.07		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	<1 to 2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<0.4 to 1.2		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tank; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.1		No	Erosion of natural deposits

[1] These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.

Unregulated Chemical Contaminants[2]	Our Water	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Sodium (ppm)	<5 to 34		N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	11 to 21		N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform (ppb)	<0.4 to 0.5		N/A	Byproducts of water chlorination
Bromoform (ppb)	<0.4 to 0.4		N/A	Byproducts of water chlorination
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	<0.4 to 0.4		N/A	Byproducts of water chlorination

[2] Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Samples Collected in the Distribution System:

Contaminants Subject to an Action Level	Action Level	Our Water	Sample Date	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)[3]	AL = 15	4.0	1999	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)[3]	AL = 1.3	0.500	1999	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

[3] 90 percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for our water.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2002 however we missed the deadline, July 1, 2002, for distributing the 2001 report to you. This is considered an administrative violation by the EPA and MDEQ and must be reported to you. Actions have been taken to ensure that all future reports are delivered in a timely manner.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at City Hall and the Otsego County Library.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Please contact the City of Gaylord if you have questions or comments or attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in room 100 in the City-County Building, 225 West Main Street. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Joe Duff, City Manager at (989) 732-4060. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.