ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2025

WATER DISTRICT #1 FED. ID# 5305667

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The Town of Owego purchases your water from Suez Water Owego-Nichols, a private water company. The water supplied by Suez Water Owego-Nichols is 100% supplied from ground water wells, located in the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer.

In 2025 the Town of Owego and Suez Water Owego-Nichols were required to sample for many water quality parameters. Listed below are detected contaminants from the Town of Owego sampling.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	Reg. Limit (MCL, TT, AL)
MICROBIOLOGICAL:					
Total Coliform:	N	2x/month	absent	colony	any positive
Likely source of contamination: Naturally occurring in the environment.					
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS:					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	8/23/2023	14.3	ug/l	MCL-80
Likely source of contamination: By-Product of drinking water Chlorinate needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.					
Haloacetic Acids	N	8/18/23	<1.0	ug/l	MCL-60
Likely source of contamination: By-Products of drinking water chlorination.					

90% PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90% percentile for Lead was 3.0 ug/L.
The range of samples was <1.0 ug/L – 23.2 ug/L.
Owners of the properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.
The 90% percentile for Copper was 0.0903 mg/L.
The range of samples was 0.0428 mg/L – 0.0925 mg/L.

The enclosed AWSS/CCR 2025 from Veolia Water Owego-Nichols provides to you the additional information about the water that the Town of Owego purchases and provides to you.

If you should have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Tyson Stiles at 607-687-0123 opt. 8. Monday thru Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board Meetings. They are held at the Owego Town Hall on Route 434, the first and the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025

WATER DISTRICT #2 PWS ID# 5305672

To comply with state regulations, the Town of Owego, Water District #2, 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. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminate level or any other water quality standard. 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 water utility, please contact Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities, at 607-687-0123 opt.8 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:30 PM, Monday thru Friday. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board Meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday at 6:30 PM of every month at the Owego Town Hall on Route 434.

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 and, 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; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 3286 people thru 963 water service connections. Our two groundwater wells draw water from the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer, which are located at the bottom of Tobey Road. Our two wells are approximately 80 feet deep. The water is treated with Sodium Hypochlorite for disinfection. A 50% Caustic Soda Solution and a Liquid Phosphate Sequestrate (Aqua Pure Z-3) are also injected at the pump house to aid in corrosion control. Fluoride is also injected into our water supply prior to distribution. Parents with children should be aware of this and consult with their dentist. Some people who drink water containing Fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bone. Children may get mottled teeth. The MCL for Fluoride is 2.2 mg/L.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYS DOH 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. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See 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.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from 2 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbials, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. While no significant sources of contamination have been identified in the assessment area, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer with high hydraulic conductivity. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbials, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

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 the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us at 687-0123 otp.8 ext.2

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented 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 drinking water, may be reasonably 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) or the Tioga County Health Department at (607-687-8437).

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, Perfluorooctansulfonic acid, and 1, 4 Dioxane (1, 4-D) PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D are relativity ubiquitous in the environment due to their historical widespread use persistence. PFOA and PFOS have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products as surface coatings and/ or protectants because of their nonstick properties. Research further indicates that these compounds bioaccumulate in various organisms, including fish and humans. 1,-D has been largely used as a solvent stabilizer for chemical processing but can also be found as a purifying agent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals as well as a contaminant in ethylated surfactants commonly used in consumer cosmetics, detergents, and shampoos. Research indicates that this chemical does not bioaccumulate in the food chain. For more information on PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D go the www.dec.ny.gov/dos/water.

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 opt. 8.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected Max.	Unit of Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Unit (*MCL,TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Primary Inorganics:							
SODIUM	N	8/21/2025	168	mg/L	N/A	See Health Effects	Naturally occur; road salt; water softeners; animal waste
ARSENIC	N	06/18/19	<1.0	ug/L	N/A	MCL-10	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards. Runoff from glass and electronics production waste.
BARIUM	N	06/18/19	15.4	mg/L	2.0	MCL-2	Discharge of drilling waste; erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries.
CHROMIUM	N	06/18/19	<5.0	ug/L	1.3	AL-1.3	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits.
NICKEL	N	06/18/19	<5.0	ug/L	No EPA	Regulations	Primary source of nickel in drinking water is leaching from metals in contact with drinking water such as pipes and fittings
FLUORIDE	N	8/16/2021	<0.535	mg/L	N/A	MCL-2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
NITRATE	N	8/21/2025	2.24	mg/L	10	MCL-10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
LEAD	N	8/27/25	27.9	ug/L	0	AL-15	Corrosions of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
COPPER	N	08/37/25	0.971	mg/L	1.3	AL 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative.
CHLORIDE	N	08/27/10	207	mg/L	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occur or road salt.
IRON	N	08/27/10	115	ug/L	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring.
MANGANESE	N	08/27/10	6	ug/L	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring indication of landfill contamination.
SULFATE	N	08/27/10	22.3	mg/L	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occurring.
ZINC	N	08/27/10	0.013	mg/L	N/A	MCL-5	Naturally occur; mining waste.

Remaining Primary Inorganic Chemical concentrations were non-detectable.

90% PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90% percentile for Lead was 1.8 ug/L.
The range of samples was <1.0 ug/L – 27.9 ug/L.
Owners of the properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.

The 90% percentile for Copper was 0.884 mg/L.
The range of samples was 0.126 mg/L – 0.971 mg/L.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected Max.	Unit of Measure-ment	MCLG	Regulatory Unit (*MCL,TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological							
Total Coliform	N	Monthly	ND	colony	0	Any Positive	Naturally Occurring
Total Trihalomethanes	N	08/23/23	20.0	ug/L	N/A	MCL-80	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms; TTHM's are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter
Total Haloacetic Acids	N	08/23/23	<2.00	ug/L	N/A	MCL-60	Byproducts of drinking water chlorination
Principle Organic Chemicals:							
4-Bromofluorobenzene	N	08/15/22	81.8	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%		
1, 2-Dichlororbenzene-d4	N	08/15/22	78	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%		
Synthetic Organic Chemicals:							
Radiological:							
Gross Alpha	N	11/16/20	0.688	pCi/L	0	MCL-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	N	11/16/20	0.406	pCi/L	0	MCL-5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	N	11/16/20	0.596	pCi/L	0	MCL-5	Erosion of natural deposits
Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances							
PFO	N	8/8/2024	3.13	ng/l	10.0		
PFA	N	8/8/2024	1.87	ng/l	10.0		
1,4 Dioxane	N	8/8/2024	<0.100	ng/l	0.0100		
Total Hardness:		07/31/17	120	mg/L			Naturally Occurring

All POC parameters for both wells were non-detectable.
% recovery of surrogates (4-Bromofluorobenzene, 1, 2-Dichlororbenzene) outside the limits would indicate the likelihood of all parameter results being reported high or low.

All SOC parameters for both wells were non-detectable.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

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

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?
No monitoring violations occurred in 2025.

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 ext. 8.

Definitions:

NON-DETECT (ND) – Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

PARTS PER MILLION (ppm) OR MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (mg/L) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $ 10,000.

PARTS PER BILLION (ppb) OR MICROGRAMS PER LITER (ug/L) – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $ 10,000,000.

ACTION LEVEL – 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 – The maximum contaminant level (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 – 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.

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.

PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/L) – A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Health Effects:

SODIUM – 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.

LEAD: 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 as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Town of Owego 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 two 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.

INFORMATION ON RADON

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.

In 2025 we did not sample for radon. Our latest results are from 2017. For additional information call your State Radon Program (1-800-358-1158) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-RADON).

INFORMATION ON FLUORIDE ADDITION

Our system is one of the many drinking water systems in New York State that provides drinking water with a controlled, low level of Fluoride for consumer dental health protection. According to the United States Centers for Disease Control, Fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal concentration of 0.7 mg/L (parts per million). To ensure that the Fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the State Department of Health requires that we monitor Fluoride levels on a daily basis. During 2025 monitoring showed Fluoride levels in your water were in the optimal range 100% of the time. None of the monitoring results showed Fluoride at levels that approach the 2.2 mg/L MCL for Fluoride.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 for 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).

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 fire-fighting 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 15-20 gallons a day. Fix it up 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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.

Sincerely,
Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025

WATER DISTRICT # 3 CRESTVIEW HEIGHTS PWS ID# 5305671

To comply with State Regulations, Town of Owego Water District #3 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 water met all state drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. 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 Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities at 607-6870123 opt. 8. We want you to be informed about your drinking water.

If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board Meetings. The meetings are held at the Owego Town Hall, Rt. 434, the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

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 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; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our two groundwater wells draw water from the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer, which is located directly across from Holiday Hill. Our drilled wells are approximately 68 feet in depth. Our water system serves approximately 2207 people through 634 service connections. The water is treated with Sodium Hypochlorite for disinfection. A 50% Caustic Soda Solution and a liquid Phosphate Sequestrant (Aqua-Pure Z-3) are also injected at the pump house to aid in corrosion control.

Fluoride is not added to the water supply in District #3.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYS DOH 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. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See 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.
As mentioned before, our water is derived from 2 drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbial, nitrates, industrial solvents, and other industrial contaminants. While no significant sources of contamination have been identified in the assessment area, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer with high hydraulic conductivity. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbial, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

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 the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us, at 625-2197.

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compound, total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. 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.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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) or the Tioga County Health Department at (607-687-8437).

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, Perfluorooctansulfonic acid, and 1, 4 Dioxane (1, 4-D) PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D are relativity ubiquitous in the environment due to their historical widespread use persistence. PFOA and PFOS have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products as surface coatings and/ or protectants because of their nonstick properties. Research further indicates that these compounds bioaccumulate in various organisms, including fish and humans. 1,-D has been largely used as a solvent stabilizer for chemical processing but can also be found as a purifying agent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals as well as a contaminant in ethylated surfactants commonly used in consumer cosmetics, detergents, and shampoos. Research indicates that this chemical does not bioaccumulate in the food chain. For more information on PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D go the www.dec.ny.gov/dos/water.

HEALTH EFFECTS

SODIUM – 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.

TOTAL COLIFORM - Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria are present. If coliforms were found in more samples than allowed, this would be a warning of potential problems.

LEAD:

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 as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Town of Owego 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.

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department @ 607-625-2197.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DET. MAX.	UNIT OF MEASURE	MCLG	REG. UNIT (MCL,TT,AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
INORGANIC							
SODIUM	N	11/21/22	88.9	mg/L	N/A	Health effects	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners, animal waste.
ARSENIC	N	06/18/19	ND	ug/L	N/A	MCL-10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM	N	06/18/19	0.035	mg/L	2	MCL-2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	N	11/21/21	0.82	mg/L	10	MCL-10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
NICKEL	N	02/03/16	<0.005	mg/L	NO	EPA	REGULATIONS
FLUORIDE	N	06/18/19	ND	mg/L	N/A	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
LEAD	N	09/07/22	1.0	ug/L	0	AL-15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
COPPER	N	09/07/22	0.541	mg/L	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
CHLORIDE	N	8/25/10	146	mg/L	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination
IRON	N	8/25/10	91	ug/L	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring.
MANGANESE	N	8/25/10	2.0	ug/L	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring, indicative of landfill contamination
SULFATE	N	8/25/10	24.7	mg/L	N/A	250	Naturally occurring.

ZINC	N	8/25/10	0.006	mg/L	N/A	MCL-5	Naturally occurring; mining waste

Remaining Primary Inorganic Chemical concentrations were non-detectible

90th PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90th percentile for lead was <1.0 ug/L
The range detected was <1.0 ug/L to 1.0 ug/L
Owners of the properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.
The 90th percentile for copper was 0.479 mg/L
The range detected was 0.149 mg/L to 0.541 mg

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	DATE OF SAMPLE	LEVEL DET. MAX.	UNIT OF MEASURE	MCLG	REG. UNIT (MCL,TT,AL)	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Inorganic:							
COLOR	N	8/25/10	8	Units	N/A	MCL-15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products such as trihalomethanes, the presence of metals such as copper, iron and manganese; natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
Microbiological:							
Total Coliform	N	3x/month	0	colony	0	any positive	naturally occurring in the environment
Disinfection Byproducts:							
Total Trihalomethanes	N	08/23/23	9.23	ug/L	N/A	MCL-80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Total Haloacetic Acids	N	08/23/23	2.1	ug/L	N/A	MCL-60	By-product of drinking Water chlorination.
Principle Organic Chemicals:							
4-Bromofluorobenzene	N	08/15/22	86.2	Recovery	Limit:	70-130%	
1,2-Dichlorobenzene-d4	N	08/15/22	83.0	Recovery	Limit:	70-130%	

All POC parameters for both wells were non-detectable.
% recovery of surrogates (4-Bromofluorobenzene, 1, 2-Dichlororbenzene-d4) outside the limits would indicate the likelihood of all parameter results being reported high or low.

Synthetic Organic Chemicals:

All SOC parameters for both wells were non-detectable.

Radiological:

Gross Alpha	N	11/16/20	0.000	pCi/L	0	MCL-15	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radium-226	N	11/16/20	0.209	pCi/L	0	MCL-5	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radium-228	N	11/16/20	1.25	pCi/L	0	MCL-5	Erosion of Natural Deposits

Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFO	N	11/17/21	<1.88	ng/l	10.0
PFA	N	11/17/21	<1.88	ng/l	10.0

Total Hardness:	07/31/17	174	mg/l	Naturally Occurring

DEFINITIONS:

NON-DETECT (ND) – Laboratory Analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

PARTS PER MILLION (ppm) OR MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (mg/l) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $ 10,000.

PARTS PER BILLION (ppb) OR MICROGRAMS PER LITER (ug/l) – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $ 10,000,000.

ACTION LEVEL – 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 – The maximum contaminant level (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 – 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.

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.

PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/L) A measure of the radioactivity in water.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations for 2025. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the state.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular Monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally-occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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 800-426-4791.

INFORMATION ON RADON

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.
In 2025 we did not sample for radon. Our latest results are from 2017. For additional information call your State Radon Program (1-800-358-1158) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-RADON).

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, 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 HIV/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).

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 fire fighting 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 15-20 gallons a day. Fix it up and you Can save almost 6,000 gallons a 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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.

Sincerely yours,

Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025

WATER DISTRICT #4 PWS ID# 5305670

To comply with state regulations, the WD#4 Water District will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of the 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. 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 Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities at 607-687-0123 otp.8. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board Meetings. The meetings are held the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm.

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 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; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department’s and the FDA’s regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 2815 people through 651 service connections. Our groundwater wells draw water from the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer via three wells. These wells are located at Depot Street and Main Street. The raw groundwater is treated with a Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for disinfection. Caustic Soda in a 50% Solution and Liquid Phosphate Sequestrate (Aqua Pure Z-3) are also injected to aid in corrosion control prior to distribution.

Fluoride is not added to the water supply in District #4.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYS DOH 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. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section “Are there contaminants in our drinking water?” for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provides resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from three drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having medium high to high susceptibility to microbial, nitrates, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminations. While no significant sources of contamination have been identified in the assessment area, the wells draw from an unconfined aquifer and the hydraulic conductivity is unknown. Please note that our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

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 the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us at 687-0123 opt 8.

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, turbidity, inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds. 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 may be reasonably 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) or the Tioga County Health Department at (607-687-8437).

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, Perfluorooctansulfonic acid, and 1, 4 Dioxane (1, 4-D) PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D are relativity ubiquitous in the environment due to their historical widespread use persistence. PFOA and PFOS have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products as surface coatings and/ or protectants because of their nonstick properties. Research further indicates that these compounds bioaccumulate in various organisms, including fish and humans. 1,-D has been largely used as a solvent stabilizer for chemical processing but can also be found as a purifying agent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals as well as a contaminant in ethylated surfactants commonly used in consumer cosmetics, detergents, and shampoos. Research indicates that this chemical does not bioaccumulate in the food chain. For more information on PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D go the www.dec.ny.gov/dos/water. The Main Street well detected PFOS at a level of 25.7ng/l and a PFOA of 6.71. This well has been taken off line until the NYSDOH can come up with a remediation plan.

HEALTH EFFECTS:

TOTAL COLIFORM: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

SODIUM: 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.

LEAD

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 as a result of materials used in your home plumbing. The Town of Owego Utilities Department 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.

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 opt 8.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measur-ement	MCLG	Reg. Limit (MCL,TT,AL)	Likely Sources of Contamination
INORGANICS:							
SODIUM	N	11/3/2025	104	mg/l	N/A	See Health Effects	Naturally occurring; road salt; water softeners
BARIUM	N	06/18/19	0.028	mg/l	2	MCL-2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
NITRATE	N	11/3/2025	1.75	mg/l	10	MCL-10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
CHLORIDE	N	12/18/23	103	mg/l	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally-occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
MANGANESE	N	11/16/20	<0.204	ug/l	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring; indicative of landfill contamination.
IRON	N	12/18/23	<50	ug/l	N/A	MCL-300	Naturally occurring.
LEAD	N	08/27/25	98.7	ug/l	0	AL-15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
COPPER	N	08/27/25	1.17	mg/l	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
SULFATE	N	11/16/20	16.3	mg/l	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occurring.
ZINC	N	12/18/23	<0.005	mg/l	N/A	MCL-5	Naturally occurring; mining waste.

Remaining Primary Inorganic Chemical concentrations were non-detectable.

90th PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90th percentile for lead was <.5. Ug/l.
Range <1.0 ug/l to 98.7 ug/l
Owners of the properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.

The 90th percentile for copper was 1.09 mg/l.
Range 0.152 mg/l to 1.17 mg/l

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measur - ement	MCLG	Reg. Limit (MCL,TT,AL)	Likely Sources of Contamination
COLOR	N	12/18/23	<5.0	Units	N/A	MCL-15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products such as trihalomethanes, the presence of metals such as copper, iron, and manganese; natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
MICRO-BIOLOGICAL:							
TOTAL COLIFORM	N	3x/month	0	Colony	0	Any Positive	Naturally Occurring
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS:							
TOTAL TRIHALO-METHANES	N	08/15/22	12.5	ug/l	--	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorinate needed to kill harmful organisms, TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
HALOACETIC ACIDS	N	08/15/22	5.51	ug/l	--	60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
RADIOLOGICAL:							
GROSS ALPHA	N	11/29/18	0.016	pCi/l	0	MCL-15	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-226	N	11/29/18	0.696	pCi/l	0	MCL-5	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-228	N	11/29/18	0.654	pCi/l	0	MCL-5	Erosion of natural deposits

Principle Organic Chemicals:

4-Bromofluorobenzene	N	08/15/22	84.0	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%
1, 2-Dichlororbenzene-d4	N	08/15/22	78.8	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%

All POC parameters for the Depot St. wells were non-detectable.
% recovery of surrogates (4-Bromofluorobenzene, 1, 2-Dichlororbenzene) outside the limits would indicate the likelihood of all parameter results being reported high or low.

Synthetic Organic Chemicals:

All SOC parameters for the Depot St. wells were non-detectable.

Total Hardness:	07/31/17	174	mg/L	Naturally Occurring

DEFINITIONS:

NON-DETECT (ND) - Laboratory Analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

PARTS PER MILLION (ppm) OR MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years of a single penny in $ 10,000.

PARTS PER BILLION (ppb) OR MICROGRAMS PER LITER (ug/l) – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $ 10,000,000.

ACTION LEVEL – 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 – The maximum contaminant level (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 – 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.

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.

PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/l) – a measure of the radioactivity in water.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

The table shows that our system had no violations in 2025. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the state.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?
We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

INFORMATION ON RADON

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.
In 2025, we did sample for Radon. Prior Radon sampling was conducted on 11/29/18. For more information call your State Radon Program (1-800-458-1158), or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-RADON).

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 HIV/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).

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 fire fighting 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 up 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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.

Sincerely,

Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2025

WATER DISTRICT #5 FED. ID# 5305668

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The Town of Owego purchases your water from Suez Water Owego-Nichols, a private water company. The water supplied by Suez Water Owego-Nichols is 100% supplied from ground water wells, located in the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer.

In 2023 the Town of Owego and Suez Water Owego-Nichols were required to sample for many water quality parameters. Listed below are detected contaminants from the Town of Owego sampling.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	Reg. Limit (MCL, TT, AL)
MICROBIOLOGICAL:					
Total Coliform:	N	1x/month	absent	colony	any positive
Likely source of contamination: Naturally occurring in the environment.					
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS:					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	2023	14.3	ug/l	MCL-80
Likely source of contamination: By-Product of drinking water Chlorinate needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.					
Haloacetic Acids	N	2023	2.7	ug/l	MCL-60
Likely source of contamination: By-Products of drinking water chlorination.					

90% PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90% percentile for Lead was 22.1 ug/L.
The range of samples was <1.0 ug/L – 125 ug/L.
Owners of the properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.
The 90% percentile for Copper was 0.187 mg/L.
The range of samples was 0.0393 mg/L – 0.604 mg/L

The enclosed AWSS/CCR 2025 from Veolia Water Owego-Nichols provides to you the additional information about the water that the Town of Owego purchases and provides to you.

If you should have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Tyson Stiles at 625-2197 Monday thru Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board Meetings. They are held at the Owego Town Hall on Route 434, the first and the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025
Route 38 WATER DISTRICT PWS ID # 5315611

To comply with State regulations, the Route 38 Water District 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. 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 Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities at 607-687-0123 opt. 8. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Board Meetings. The meetings are held at the Owego Town Hall, Rt. 434, the first Tuesday and the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

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 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; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our two groundwater wells draw water from the Clinton Street Ball Park Sole Source Aquifer, which is located behind the Tioga County Sheriff Vehicle Garage. Our drilled wells are approximately 103 feet in depth. Our water system serves approximately 350-450 people through 15 service connections. The water is treated with Sodium Hypochlorite for disinfection prior to distribution.

Fluoride is not added to the water supply in the Route 38 District.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

The NYS DOH 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. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See 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.

As mentioned before, our source water is derived from two drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated our wells as having medium to medium-high susceptibility to various contaminants. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our well as being susceptible to microbial, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State Drinking Water Standards for microbial contamination.

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 the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting us at 687-0123 ext. 8.

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, Turbidity, Inorganic Compounds, Nitrate, Nitrite, Lead, Copper, Volatile Organic Compounds, Synthetic Organic Compounds, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), Haloacetic Acids and Radiological. 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 does 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 drinking water, may be reasonably 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) or the Tioga County Health Department at (607-687-8437).

HEALTH EFFECTS:

TOTAL COLIFORM: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used to indicate that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. No coliform bacteria were detected in this district in 2025.

SODIUM:
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.

LEAD:
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 as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. The Town of Owego Utilities Department 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.

Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, Perfluorooctansulfonic acid, and 1, 4 Dioxane (1, 4-D) PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D are relativity ubiquitous in the environment due to their historical widespread use persistence. PFOA and PFOS have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products as surface coatings and/ or protectants because of their nonstick properties. Research further indicates that these compounds bioaccumulate in various organisms, including fish and humans. 1,-D has been largely used as a solvent stabilizer for chemical processing but can also be found as a purifying agent in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals as well as a contaminant in ethylated surfactants commonly used in consumer cosmetics, detergents, and shampoos. Research indicates that this chemical does not bioaccumulate in the food chain. For more information on PFOA, PFOS, and 1, 4-D go the www.dec.ny.gov/dos/water.

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 ext. 8.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected Max.	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Unit (MCL, TT, AL)	Likely source of Contamination
INORGANICS:							
Sodium	N	8/21/2025	23.4	mg/L	N/A		Naturally occurring; see Health Effects
Nitrate	N	8/21/2025	1.52	mg/L	10	MCL-10	Run off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	N	2/10/2025	27.1	mg/L	2	MCL-2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	N	6/18/19	ND	mg/L	N/A	2.2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; additive that promotes healthy teeth.
Copper	N	8/29/22	0.174	mg/L	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	N	8/29/22	1.8	ug/L	0	AL-15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Chloride	N	8/25/10	42.7	mg/L	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occurring or

							indicative of road salt contamination.
Sulfate	N	8/25/10	13.5	mg/L	N/A	MCL-250	Naturally occurring.
Zinc	N	8/25/10	0.008	mg/L	N/A	MCL-5	Naturally occurring; Mining waste

Remaining Primary Inorganic Chemical concentrations were non-detectable.

90% PERCENTILE LEAD AND COPPER

The 90th percentile for Lead was 1.4 ug/L. The range of detection was <1.0 ug/L to 0.177 ug/L
Customers of those properties sampled for lead were notified of the results by mail.

The 90th percentile for Copper was 0.149 mg/L. The range of detection was 0.0270 mg/L to 0.174 mg/L

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date of Sample	Level Detected Max.	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Unit (MCL, TT, AL)	Likely source of Contamination
MICRO-BIOLOGICAL:							
Total Coliform:	N	1x/month	0	Colony	0	Any Positive Sample	Naturally occurring in the environment. See Health Effects.
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS:							
Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHMs)	N	8/15/22	13.0	ug/L	80	MCL-80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination to kill harmful organisms; TTHMs are formed when source water contain large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids HAA-5	N	8/23/1	5.37	ug/L	N/A	MCL-60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
RADIOLOGICAL:							
Gross Alpha	N	12/12/23	1.72	pCi/L	0	MCL-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	N	12/12/23	0.93	pCi/L	0	MCL-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	N	12/12/23	1.89	pCi/L	0	MCL-15	Erosion of natural deposits
Principle Organic Chemicals:							

4-Bromofluorobenzene	N	8/15/22	105	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%
1, 2-Dichlororbenzene-d4	N	8/15/22	102	% recovery	Limit: 70-130%

All POC parameters at the Route 38 well house were non-detectable.
% recovery of surrogates (4-Bromofluorobenzene, 1, 2-Dichlororbenzene) outside the limits would indicate the likelihood of all parameter results being reported high or low.

Synthetic Organic Chemicals:

All SOC parameters at the Route 38 well house were non-detectable.

Total Hardness:

7/31/17	143	mg/L	Naturally Occurring

Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFO	N	2/5/2025	<1.92	ng/l	10.0
PFA	N	2/5/2025	<1.92	ng/l	10.0

Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2023 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 ext. 8.

DEFINITIONS:

NON-DETECT (ND) – Laboratory Analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

PARTS PER MILLION (ppm) OR MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (mg/L) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $ 10,000.

PARTS PER BILLION (ppb) OR MICROGRAMS PER LITER (ug/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $ 10,000,000.

ACTION LEVEL - 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 – The maximum contaminant level (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 – 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.

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.

PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/L) – A measure of the radioactivity in water.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the state.
Anyone wishing to receive a list of non-detected (ND) 2025 samples should call the Town of Owego Utilities Department at 607-687-0123 ext. 8.

IS OUR SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

INFORMATION ON RADON

Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas found in soil and outdoor air that may also be found in drinking water and indoor air. Some people exposed to elevated radon levels over many years in drinking water may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The main risk is lung cancer from radon entering indoor air from soil under homes.

In 2025, we did not sample for radon. Our latest results are from 2014. For additional information call your State Radon Program (1-800-358-1158) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOS-RADON).

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded State and Federal Regulations, 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 HIV/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).

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 fire fighting 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 up 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. 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.

Sincerely yours,

Tyson Stiles
Director of Utilities

2025 Table of Detected Contaminants – Owego – NY5304409

Contaminant, Inorganic	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Sample Date	Level Detected Average	Level Detected Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	mg/L	No	06-24-2024	0.069	0.068 - 0.07	2.00	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as Nitrogen	mg/L	No	10-22-2025	1.068	0.955 - 1.18	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer usage; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant. Chlorine	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Sample Date	Level Detected Max RAA[1]	Level Detected Range	SMCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Free Chlorine-Field	mg/L	No	02-03-2025	0.66	0.16 - 0.85	4.0	NA	Water additive used to control microbes

[1]RAA represents the highest running annual average of quarterly results. The range of results represents the range of individual results from all distribution sample locations.

Contaminant, Disinfection Byproducts	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Sample Date	Level Detected Max LRAA[1]	Level Detected Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Total HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	ug/L	No	08-28-2025	2.4	ND - 2.4	60	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection needed to kill harmful organisms.
Total TTHM (Trihalomethanes)	ug/L	No	08-28-2025	11.5	5.1 - 11.5	80	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains organic matter.

LRAA represents the highest locational running annual average of quarterly results. The range of results represents the range of individual results from all sample locations.

Contaminant, Additional	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected Maximum	Level Detected Range	NY MCL	EPA MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
4-Bromo-3,5-Dimethylphenyl N-Methylcarbamate	mg/L	No	0.002	0.002 - 0.002	NA	NA	
4-Bromofluorobenzene	mg/L	No	5.25	5.15 - 5.25	NA	NA	

In addition to the contaminants listed above, for which Federal and/or State regulations limits have been established, and regular monitoring is required, we may also occasionally test for unregulated contaminants to determine occurrence data and provide input to regulatory agencies that are considering these contaminants for future regulations. This data is presented below.

Contaminant, Unregulated Synthetic Organic	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Sample Date	Quarterly Locational Average Range	Level Detected Range	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ng/L	No	10-22-2025	1.2-1.2	1.2 - 1.2	NA	NA	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	ng/L	No	10-22-2025	0.51-0.88	0.51 - 0.88	NA	NA	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS)	ng/L	No	10-22-2025	ND-0.49	ND - 0.49	NA	NA	Released into the environment from widespread use in commercial and industrial applications

Secondary standards are non-mandatory guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health.

Contaminant, Secondary Standards	Unit Measurement	Violation Yes/No	Sample Date	Level Detected Average	Level Detected Range	SMCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Sodium	mg/L	No	10-22-2025	46.85	33.7 - 60	NA	NA	Naturally occurring element

[1] Health note for sodium: 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.