Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008
TOWN OF SAVANNAH WATER DISTRICT
1564 NORTH MAIN STREET/P.O. BOX 296/SAVANNAH NY 13146
(Public Water Supply ID# 5801240)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations,Savannah 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. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level. 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 Bruce Waterman st (315)365-2822. 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 on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 at the Town Hall located at 1564 North Main steet,Savannah

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 a population of 950 through 300 metered service connections. Our water source is a groundwater source consisting of a spring-fed well which is located off Bixby-Wood Rd. north of the hamlet. The holding well is constructed of concrete and is 12 feet in diameter and is 18 feet deep. The water is disinfect with a sodium hypochlorite solution before entering the distribution system. Any water not used by our customers is then stored in a 500,000 gallon concrete reservoir located on Trevor Jackson's farm off Rt 31 south of the hamlet.

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, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds,and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented on page 2 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 Geneva District Office of the NYS Dept. Of Health at (315)789-3030

Definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.
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.
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 required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
Milligrams per liter (mg/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).
Micrograms per liter (ug/l): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).
Picocuries per liter (pCi/l): A measure of radioactivity in water

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

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?

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During 2008, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.
Treatment Technique Filtration and Disinfection Violations
The Town of Savannah is in violation of the Surface Water Treatment Rule and is required to install a water filtration plant . Therefore, we are required to include the following statement in this report: "Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms.

These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches." The Town of Savannah is in the process of actively seeking funding and has hired design engineers to comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule.

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.
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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 an you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. 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 at (315) 365-2822 if you have questions.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) (Range)	Unit Measure-ment	MCL	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
TURBIDITY (3)	NO	Monthly	0 .63NTU	NTU	0	0.3	soil runoff
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
COPPER (1)	NO	9/06	0.09 (ND-0.58)	MG/L	1.3	AL=1.3	Cossosion of household plumbing system,Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD(2)	NO	9/06	2 (nd-3)	UG/L	0	AL=15	Cossosion of household plumbing system,Erosion of natural deposits

NITRATE as N	NO	8/08	2.46	MG/L	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use,Leaching from septic tanks,sewage,Erosion of natural depositis
BARIUM	NO	6/08	49	UG/L	2000	2000	Discharge of drilling wastes,Discharge from metal refineries,Erosion of natural deposits
RADIOLOGICAL							
Radium-226	NO	10/08	ND-0.05	PCI/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	NO	10/08	ND-1.8	PCI/L	0	5	

Notes:

1 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the copper values detected at your water system. In this case, 10 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the .090 mg/l value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested.

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 samples collected. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

3– Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. Our highest single turbidity measurement for the year occurred on 12/5/08 (.63 NTU). State regulations require that turbidity must always be less than or equal to 1.0 NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 0.3 NTU.

Contaminate	Date of Sample	Level Detected (avg/max)(range)	Unit Measurement	Contaminate	Date of Sample	Level Dectected (avg/max)(range)	Unit Measurement

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Trihalomethanes:			Haloacetic Acids:		
		MCL			MCL
Total Trihalomethanes:	18.25 UG/L	80 UG/L	Total: HAA5'S	9.00 UG/L	60 UG/L

NOTE:
< = LESS THAN