

## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2025

### Town of Benton WD #4

1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527  
(Public Water Supply ID# 6130010)

## INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, The Town of Benton, 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 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 Jayson Hoover at the Town of Benton Water Operator at (585) 329-6904. 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 Wednesday of every month at the town hall.

## 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 Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Our water source consists of 4 drilled wells located at Kashong. During 2025 our system did not experience any restriction of our water source. The groundwater is treated in a variety of ways prior to entering distribution. The water is disinfected through the use of chlorine. Fluoride is added to the water for the promotion of healthy teeth and gums. Orthophosphate is used for corrosion purposes. The NYSDOH has completed a source water assessment for water district #2 based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water 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 the consumer 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 manager with additional information for protecting source waters in the future. County and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, plans and educational programs. A copy of the assessment including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the NYSDOH at (315) 789-3030

## FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves the Town of Geneva districts #1, #2, #3, #6, #9, #10 and #12. In sequence they are the Lenox Park area, West Lake Road area, White Springs Road area, Castle Road area, State Route 14A area, Route 5 & 20 area, CR 6 area, Hastings Rd area, Brae wood Lane area. There are approximately 2,758 residents on 904 service connections maintained by the Town of Geneva Water Department. The Town of Geneva's water plant also serves water to the Town of Seneca (approximately 2720 residents on 1167 service connections), the Town of Benton (approximately 400 residents on 153 connections), and the Town of Torrey (approximately 90 residents on 50 service connections). The total amount produced in 2025 was 317,550,000 gallons. Our annual "unaccounted for" total was, 10,475,800 gallons for 2025. This is approximately 3.25 % of the total production of the year and is attributed to main flushing, firefighting and main breaks. For an average family in the Town of Geneva using an average of 18,000 gallons per quarter, the cost of purchasing water was \$273.60 annually in 2025. Equating to an annual charge \$3.81 per 1,000 gallons used or about \$.75 cents per day.

## 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 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, 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 Health Department at (315) 789-3030. 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 synthetic organic compounds. None of the compounds we analyzed for were detected in your drinking water. Geneva Town WD2 is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.

Table of Detected Contaminants							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
THM's (Trihalomethanes)	No	8/7/2023	38	ug/l	N/A	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organism. THMs are formed when source water contains amounts of organic matter
HAA5 (haloacetic acids)	No	8/7/2023	5.9	ug/l	N/A	MCL=60	by-product of drinking water chlorination
PHOA/PFOS	No	Aug 2025	<1.0	ng/l	N/A	Action level 10 ng/l	Possibly the Seneca Army Depot
fluoride	No	Monthly 2025	0.77 (.6-.9)	mg/1	N/A	MCL=2.2	erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strongteeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
lead	No	08/2024	2.1 (0-5.2)	ug/1	15	AL=15	corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
copper	No	08/2024	1120 (20.2-1430)	ug/l	1300	AL=1300	corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
barium	No	7/28/2022	73.6	ug/l	2	MCL=2000	discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
nitrate	No	8/14/25	1.4 mg/L	mg/1	10	MCL=10	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
sodium	No	8/14/25	38.2	mg/1	0	***	Naturally occurring, road salt, water softeners, animal waste.
Gross alpha	No	8/10/23	1.87+/- .945	pCi/L	0	MCL=5	erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	No	8/10/23	.256-354 +/-	pCi/L	0	MCL=5	erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	No	8/10/23	.323-.384 +/-	pCi/L	0	MCL=5	erosion of natural deposits
Total coliform	No	monthly	none	Present absent	0	0	Naturally present in environment

The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 20 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, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90th percentile value was the third highest value. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

\*The action level for lead wasn't exceeded at any of the sites. The action level for copper was exceeded at one of the sites.

\*\*\* Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severe 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.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water; are set as close to the MCLG 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.

**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 contaminant.

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

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

**Level 1 Assessment:** A level 1 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total

coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** a level 2 assessment is an evaluation of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E.coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**NEPHELOMETRIC turbidity UNIT (NTU):** a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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.

**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).

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr):** a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fiber per liter (MFL):** a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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**Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

**Nano grams per liter (ng/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid to one trillion parts of liquid (parts per trillion - ppt).

**Pico grams per liter (pg/L):** Corresponds to one part per of liquid to one quadrillion parts of liquid (parts per quadrillion - ppq). **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Contaminant	Health Effects
Total Coliform Bacteria	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution.
E. Coli	E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
Turbidity	Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. Please pay special attention to the additional statement in this document regarding Cryptosporidium.
Gross alpha activity (including radium –226 but excluding radon and uranium)	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Combined radium –226 and 228	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Total Trihalomethanes (THMs chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform)	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di-, and trichloroacetic acid, and mono and di bromoacetic acid)	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	PFOA caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high level exposures to PFOA in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOA as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOA in animals.
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	PFOS caused a range of health effects when studied in animals at high exposure levels. The most consistent findings were effects on the liver and immune system and impaired fetal growth and development. Studies of high level exposures to PFOS in people provide evidence that some of the health effects seen in animals may also occur in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers PFOS as having suggestive evidence for causing cancer based on studies of lifetime exposure to high levels of PFOS in animals.
Chlorine Residual	Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) could experience stomach discomfort.
Contaminant	Health Effects

Nitrate	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Arsenic	Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Fluoride	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 bones. Children may get mottled teeth.
Barium	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, difficulties in breathing, increased or decreased blood pressure or numbness around the face and muscle weakness.
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	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
Copper	is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.
Chloride	Chloride is essential for maintaining good health. Research has not conclusively demonstrated that human exposure to chloride itself causes adverse health effects, although exposure to high levels of certain chloride salts has been associated with adverse health effects in humans. For example, high dietary intake of sodium chloride can be a contributing factor to high blood pressure, but this has been attributed mainly to the presence of sodium. The New York State standard for chloride is 250 milligrams per liter, and is based on chloride's effects on the taste and odor of the water.
Sulfate	Drinking water containing high concentrations of sulfate can cause short term intestinal effects in humans. The effects can range from a laxative effect (loose stools) to diarrhea (unusually frequent and liquid bowel movements). Diarrhea is of particular concern in infants, because it can lead to more serious effects such as dehydration. Travelers or new residents, who may change from drinking water with low sulfate concentrations to drinking water with high sulfate concentrations, may experience short term intestinal effects due to sulfate. The New York State standard for sulfate is 250 milligrams per liter, and is based on sulfate's effects on the taste and odor of the water.
Lithium	The EPA does not currently have an EPA Health Advisory for Lithium in drinking water
Cyanide	EPA has found cyanide to potentially cause the following health effects when people are exposed to it at levels above the MCL for relatively short periods of time: rapid breathing, tremors, and other neurological effects.

#### **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?**

During 2025, our system was in compliance with applicable state drinking water operating, monitoring and repairing requirements. Geneva Town WD 2 is 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. The Town of Geneva in collaboration with the EPA has done sampling for US EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). We are proud to say that all tested contaminants were well below the acceptable limits. If you are interested in getting a copy of those results contact Howard Bailey at 315-789-6727.

#### **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).

#### **INFORMATION ON LEAD**

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula fed & breast fed) and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Town of Geneva Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control; the variety of materials used in plumbing Component in your home you share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead material within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. Can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Town of Geneva Water Department at 315-789-6727. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

#### **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

Geneva Town WD 2 is 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. During 2025 our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

#### **INFORMATION ON LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY**

The Town of Geneva has completed its Lead Service Line Inventory. We are proud to say that No lead service lines have been found in the town's service area. A copy of that report can be found on the Town of Geneva website.

#### **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:**

In 2024 the Town of Geneva have made improvements to our water plant by adding a 4<sup>th</sup> well and increasing the size of our 3 main pumps by 25 horsepower as well as new VFD'S to run those pumps and a new SCADA system to control them. This improvement boosts our production capacity to 1.6 million gallons a day. Providing for higher demands for years to come.

#### **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 range from 0.7 to 1.0 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 between .5 and 1.0 mg/l in your water and 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.

#### **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**;
- \*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 firefighting 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 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.
- \* Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. For questions regarding the content of the report, please contact Howard Bailey at the Town of Geneva (315) 789-6727 or the NYSDOH at (315) 789-3030.